

THE HONORABLE BENJAMIN H. SETTLE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT TACOMA

KYLIE STEELE,)	Case No. 19-cv-05553-BHS
)	
Plaintiff,)	DEFENDANT NATIONAL
)	RAILROAD PASSENGER
v.)	CORPORATION’S MOTION FOR
)	STAY OF EXECUTION PURSUANT
NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER)	TO FED. R. CIV. P. 62(B)
CORPORATION, d/b/a AMTRAK,)	
)	NOTE ON MOTION CALENDAR:
Defendants.)	JANUARY 7, 2022

Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 62(b), Defendant National Railroad Passenger Corporation (“Amtrak”) respectfully moves for an order staying enforcement of the judgments entered in this matter upon Amtrak’s posting of supersedeas bonds in an amount to be determined by the Court.

I. BACKGROUND

On November 23, 2021, the Court entered judgment in favor of Plaintiff Kylie Steele pursuant to the jury’s verdict for \$6,875,000. Dkt. 88.

On or before December 21, 2021, Amtrak intends to move for a new trial, or in the alternative, for remittitur pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 59. In the alternative to a new trial, Amtrak also will be moving for a judgment as a matter of law with respect to Plaintiff’s future economic loss.

II. ARGUMENT & AUTHORITY

Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 62(b) provides that “[a]t any time after judgment is entered, a party may obtain a stay by providing a bond or other security. The stay takes effect

DEFENDANT’S MOTION FOR STAY OF EXECUTION OF
JUDGMENT PURSUANT TO FED. R. CIV. P. 62(B) - 1
CASE NO. 19-CV-05553-BHS

019188.0447/8812887.1

LANE POWELL PC
1420 FIFTH AVENUE, SUITE 4200
P.O. BOX 91302
SEATTLE, WA 98111-9402
206.223.7000 FAX: 206.223.7107

1 when the court approves the bond or other security and remains in effect for the time specified
 2 in the bond or other security.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 62(b). A party may obtain “a stay at any time after
 3 a judgment is entered, not just when an appeal is taken.” 11 Charles Alan Wright & Arthur R.
 4 Miller, Fed. Prac. & Proc. Civ. § 2905 (3d ed., August 2019 Update).

5 By posting a bond, the Plaintiff is protected from any loss resulting from the stay in the
 6 execution of the judgment. *Pacific Reinsurance Management Corporation v. Ohio Reinsurance*
 7 *Corporation*, 935 F.2d 1019, 1027 (9th Cir. 1991). District courts have “inherent discretionary
 8 authority in setting supersedeas bonds.” *Rachel v. Banana Republic, Inc.*, 831 F.2d 1503, 1505
 9 n.1 (9th Cir. 1987). It has been observed that courts often compute the supersedeas bond by
 10 looking at the amount of the judgment plus interest, costs, and an estimate of any damages
 11 attributed to the delay. 11 Charles Alan Wright & Arthur R. Miller, Fed. Prac. & Proc. Civ. §
 12 2905 (3d ed., August 2019 Update). A published decision within the Ninth Circuit noted that
 13 “[a]lthough practices vary among judges, a bond of 1.25 to 1.5 times the judgment is typically
 14 required.” *Cotton ex rel. McClure v. City of Eureka*, 860 F. Supp. 2d 999, 1029 (N.D. Cal. 2012)
 15 (quoting Christopher A. Goelz & Meredith J. Watts, California Practice Guide: Ninth Circuit
 16 Civil Appellate Practice ¶ 1:168 (TRG 2011)).

17 Bonds at the lower end of this range would be more than enough to secure Plaintiff’s
 18 judgment plus costs, interest, and anticipated legal fees on appeal, if any. Amtrak respectfully
 19 requests that the Court establish bond amounts of \$8,593,750 (\$6,875,000 x 1.25).

20 Once Amtrak posts the bond in an amount determined by the court, Amtrak requests that
 21 the enforcement of judgment be stayed until the time for Amtrak to file an appeal expires or the
 22 Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit issues a final decision in this matter, whichever is later.

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1 DATED this 20th day of December, 2021.

2 LANE POWELL PC

3
4 By s/ Andrew G. Yates
5 Andrew G. Yates, WSBA No. 34239
6 yatesa@lanepowell.com
7 Tim D. Wackerbarth, WSBA No. 13673
8 wackerbartht@lanepowell.com

9 LANDMAN CORSI BALLAINE & FORD, PC

10 By s/ Mark S. Landman
11 Mark S. Landman, *Pro Hac Vice*
12 mlandman@lcbf.com
13 John A. Bonventre, *Pro Hac Vice*
14 jbbonventre@lcbf.com

15 *Attorneys for Defendant National Railroad*
16 *Passenger Corporation*